

Weekly Status & Information Report: January 7 - 11, 2013

1. Official City Meetings Scheduled the Week of January 14, 2013:

- City Council meeting, Monday, January 14, 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium (closed session vote at 6:00 p.m.)
- Nuclear Free Takoma Park Committee (tentative), Tuesday, January 15, 7:30 p.m. in the Hydrangea Room
- Board of Elections meeting, Wednesday, January 16, 7:30 p.m. in the Council Conference Room
- Public Hearing on City Redistricting Plan: The City Council will hold a public hearing on the proposed City ward redistricting plan on Monday, January 14, at 7:30 p.m. in the Takoma Park Auditorium, 7500 Maple Avenue. The public is encouraged to attend the public hearing and sign up to speak. Written comments may be addressed to clerk@takomagov.org. Information about the plan was published in the January issue of the Takoma Park Newsletter:
<https://s3.amazonaws.com/newsletter-takomapark/2013/012013-newsletter.pdf>. The agenda item packet will be posted later today at: <http://takomaparkmd.gov/clerk/agenda/index.html>.

All meetings are held in the Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue, and are open to the public unless noted otherwise. To confirm that a meeting will be held as scheduled, call the City Clerk at 301-891-7267 or email jessiec@takomagov.org. (City Clerk)

2. Opening Artist's Reception - TONIGHT: Please join us tonight at the opening of four new exhibits at the Takoma Park Community Center. Featured artists are Alice Shih (Gallery 3), Mohamed "Amdy" Adje (Atrium Gallery), Michael Harrington (Dempsey Memorial Gallery) and Thien Nguyen (Corridor Gallery). Opening reception will be held in the Atrium Gallery from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Free admission. Learn more about the artists and catch a glimpse of their work on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/events. (Housing and Community Development)

3. Community Center Class Demo Day - TOMORROW January 12: Tomorrow, January 12, 2013 the Recreation Department will be hosting a day of FREE class demonstrations. That's right FREE!!! This will be your opportunity to come out and see some awesome recreation programs in action. You will be able to meet some of the instructors and even register for your favorite class or program. The event will be held at the Takoma Park Community Center (7500 Maple Avenue) from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. There will be a variety of programs on hand such as dance, drama, art, fitness, nature, multimedia and martial arts, to name a few. All ages are welcome as there will be something for everyone. For additional information, please contact Lew McAllister at LewM@takomagov.org. (Recreation)

4. Celebrating Martin Luther King: Please join our celebration on Saturday, January 12th at Piney Branch Elementary School from 1:00pm-7:30pm. We will begin the afternoon with service activities outside cutting invasive vines or picking up litter. Arts and Crafts and a message from President Obama will follow. A documentary video about MLK and Takoma Park civil rights leader Lee Jordan will start at 4:00 pm, followed by a potluck supper and evening program. The event is sponsored by Takoma United for an Engaged Community, with support from the Takoma Foundation, CHEER and the Takoma Park Recreation Department. (Recreation)

5. Teen Volunteers Needed for Community Day of Service-Tomorrow!: Earn Student Service Learning (SSL) hours while celebrating the life, legacy, and history of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. To volunteer for this service project, please contact Leicia Monfort at (301) 891-7290 or LeiciaM@takomagov.org. Project/Event is tomorrow, Saturday, January 12, 2013, from 1:00 3:00 p.m., Piney Branch Elementary School, 7510 Maple Avenue, Multi-purpose Room. (Recreation)

6. Scary Stories: This coming Monday, January 14 at 7:30 p.m., Master Storyteller Candace Wolf returns with magical, funny, heartwarming tales for families – best for children 5 and up. Candace has entertained Takoma Park's children for many years with genuinely scary stories at Halloween. This year, bad weather necessitated its cancellation – so Candace agreed to return with this special program! (Library)

7. Awesome Evening: The long-awaited "Evening of Awesome" celebration of the one-year anniversary of John Green's Young Adults novel, *The Fault in Our Stars*, will be held Tuesday evening, January 15, at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Center Auditorium. Green and his brother will be appearing live at Carnegie Hall – and the event will be live-streamed to multiple venues around the country. Takoma Park is the only place in the metro area to see it with your friends and other fans of the author. Politics and Prose Bookstore will be selling copies of Green's books. You must be registered to attend this event! We are nearing capacity – to attend register at: www.tinyurl.com/AwesomeNerdfighters. Registrations will be checked at the door. For those on the waiting list, we will have a special over-flow area, where they may watch the program. (Library)

8. Sidewalk Design Review for 7500 Jackson Avenue: The City's engineering firm will present revised design proposals for sidewalk on the 7500 block of Jackson Avenue. The meeting will take place at the Community Center, Rose Room at 7:30 pm on Tuesday, January 15. (Public Works)

9. Yes, We Did: the People's Inauguration - Wednesday, January 16: We are Takoma and Docs in Progress present a community screening of "Yes We Did: the People's Inauguration," the story of the Inauguration of Barack Obama, told through the eyes of ordinary citizens who came together on a very cold January day in 2008. The film captures everything from the parade rehearsal to a celebratory chili dog toast at Ben's Chili Bowl. Relive that day four years ago and witness what the major networks failed to capture--the experience of the Inauguration the way it was meant to be experienced: with the people. Following the screening, the filmmakers Brian Pascale and Andre Dahlman will answer questions about the making of the film. Location is the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium with a 7:30 p.m. screening. Free admission. www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD/events. (Housing and Community Development)

10. Long Branch Sector Plan Community Meeting: Wednesday, January 16, 6:00 - 8:30 p.m. at Rolling Terrace Elementary School. To bring a better quality of life to residents and business owners in the Long Branch community, county planners are inking a plan that considers ways to improve connections for pedestrians, cyclists and motorists, bring a mix of homes, offices, retail and entertainment uses, and upgrade public spaces like parks and street fronts. With the coming of the Purple Line light rail station, Long Branch is poised for positive change. Learn more and provide feedback on the Long Branch Sector Plan draft at: <http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/community/longbranch/>. (Housing and Community Development)
11. Flower Avenue Green Street Design Development: Join City staff and the engineering team to review draft design recommendations for the Flower Avenue Green Street project. The meeting will take place at Wilkinson Hall, at the corner of Flower Avenue and Division Street, on Thursday, January 17 from 7:15 through 9:30. Plans are available on the City's website at www.takomaparkmd.gov/floweravenue, then click on Documents. (Public Works)
12. Poetry Reading - Thursday, January 17: Join us in the Takoma Park Community Center auditorium at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 17 to experience the work of JoAnne Growney, Poet Laureate emeritus Anne Becker (2007-2011,) Virginia Bell, and Poet Laureate emeritus (and the "father" of the Third Thursday series) Don Berger (2005-2007.) Free Admission. www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD/events. (Housing and Community Development)
13. New Ave Garden Grant - Deadline Extended: Application deadline for the New Ave Garden Grant is extended to March 1, 2013. Grants fund long term improvements for your community to make a difference, from a small tree that is watered and cared for, to a full park renovation! To learn more and apply, contact the Planning Division at 301-891-7119 or see <http://www.theNewAve.com/explore/parks-and-nature/gardening-greening-grant> (<http://www.thenewave.com/explore/parks-and-nature/gardening-greening-grant>). (Housing and Community Development)
14. City Staff Attend Press Event for New MetroExtra K9 Route: City staff attended the official launch of the new K9 MetroExtra service at Fort Totten Metro Station on January 7. The K9 express bus serves the entire Takoma Park stretch of New Hampshire Avenue during both the morning and evening rush hours, connecting Wards 2, 3, and 6 with Fort Totten Metro Station and Northwest Park. To download the K9 timetable, see: <http://www.wmata.com/bus/timetables/MD/k9.pdf>. (Housing and Community Development)
15. Caldecott Birthday Club: Approximately 50 people attended the Library's Caldecott Birthday Club on January 9. The evening was devoted to an exploration of Caldecott-winning books from the 1980s. (Library)
16. Futsal League - Sign up Today!: Parents are you looking for a way to keep your star soccer player active during the cold winter months? Well, why not have them participate in the 2013 Futsal league. This league provides a forum for athletes to manage their soccer skills and learn some new ones too. Registration is now open but space limited. Program is open to girls and boys in grades 2-4. All participants will be assigned to teams and provided team shirts for league play. All games are played on Sundays from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and are held at the Takoma Park Recreation Center (7315 New Hampshire Avenue.) To register online, please visit: www.activenet.active.com/takomaparkrecreation. For additional information, please contact Bradley Williams at (301) 891-7282 or BradleyW@takomagov.org. (Recreation)
17. Commit to Stay Fit with Zumba: With Kim Clark as an instructor and a get fit attitude, Zumba started a new session at Takoma Park Recreation Center. On Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. and Saturdays at 9:15 a.m., Kim leads everyone through a workout with hypnotic Latin, Reggae and Merengue rhythms and easy to follow moves. Kim has one goal for everyone: she wants you to join the party and dance the inches away! For more information, contact John Webster at 301-891-7289 or johnw@takomagov.org. (Recreation)
18. Adult Volleyball (Coed): Adults...adults...open courts for volleyball will be available for adult "drop in" play each Monday from 8:15 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. at Takoma Park Recreation Center (7315 New Hampshire Avenue.) This new program is open to men and women ages 18 and over. Individuals of all skill levels are welcome to participate. All games are self-officiated. Program is free with membership or \$5 per person drop-in-fee. For additional information, please contact BradleyW@takomagov.org or (301) 891-7282. (Recreation)
19. Forever Young - Enjoying Active Life Over 55 in Takoma Park: In December, the Takoma Park Recreation Department held two focus groups, composed of twenty adults aged (50 to 65), to discuss the current senior program (Silver Foxes) and give their ideas and suggestions on how to appeal to the Baby Boomer generation. First item on the agenda, change the title of the newsletter. While the newsletter format was well liked, the title was not favored. The department asked the focus groups for alternative titles that would be appealing to both younger and older adults alike, and then participants who are currently active in the program were asked to vote on the suggested titles and picked a favorite. The winner is: Forever Young, and the January/February 2013 newsletter, now in a bi-monthly format, is available on-line at www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation and at the Takoma Park Community Center. More information to follow about the focus groups and their input into the new Forever Young - Active Adults Age 55 Plus program. (Recreation)
20. Maryland Recreation and Parks Association (MRPA) Workshop Focus on Leading Through Games!: On Friday, Leicia Monfort, Teen Programs Manager, attended an MRPA workshop in Greenbelt. The workshop focused on leading teens by way of large and small group games. These games are designed to build memories and skills for teens in the community. For more information on Teen Programs, please contact Leicia Monfort at (301) 891-7283. (Recreation)

21. Winter Basketball League Referee Volunteers Needed!: The Takoma Park Recreation Department is looking for spirited and dedicated people to volunteer as referees. The Winter Basketball League serves over 600 girls and boys in and around Takoma Park in grades K-8 each season. Must be able to volunteer on Saturdays. No experience is necessary as training is provided. For additional information on how to volunteer, please contact Bradley Williams at (301) 891-7282 or BradleyW@takomagov.org. (Recreation)

22. Officers in Training: On January 7-11, D/Cpl. Hoetzel attended a "First Line Supervisor Training Program" at the Public Safety and Education Training Center in Sykesville, Maryland. (Police)

23. Crime Report: The most recent Takoma Park Police Weekly Crime Report (January 4-10, 2013) may be viewed online at http://cathylevy.blogspot.com/2013/01/takoma-park-police-department-weekly_10.html. (Police)

24. Traffic Enforcement: Officers conducted at least 99 traffic stops, which resulted in citations, four vehicle impounds and one Controlled Dangerous Substance (CDS) arrest from traffic.

January 3

- Flower Avenue & Garland Avenue (stop sign enforcement) – conducted a 90-minute detail and issued six State citations.

January 7

- Flower Avenue & Garland Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued three State citations.
- Erskine Street & 13th Place (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued seven State citations.

January 8

- Flower Avenue & Garland Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 90-minute detail and issued four State citations and three warnings.

January 9

- Flower Avenue & Garland Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued two State citations. (Police)

25. Traffic Officer Stats (Pfc. Walter Smith):

Week of January 7-9

State citations: 14

Calls for service: 11

Reports: 2

Safety Equipment Repair Order (SERO): 6

Warnings: 10

Court: 2.5 hours

Foot patrol: 3 hours

(Police)